Illegal mining in Joda

3262. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal mining in manganese mines in Joda area is going on without proper mining lease and forest clearance, causing loss of Rs. 4000 crore to Government and royalty worth crores of rupees to State Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) A case of alleged mining relating to Rudukela and Katasahi manganese mines over an area of 96.568 hectares in Joda area has come to the notice of Government. The State Government has ordered for a vigilance enquiry in to the matter besides an administrative enquiry. Both enquiries are underway.

Status of NCM

3263. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken/being taken to provide constitution/statutory status to the National Commission for Minorities;

(b) the details of the plans in this regard; and

(c) by when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) In terms of the provisions of National Commission for Minority Act, 1992 National Commission for Minorities already has statutory status. The Government had introduced the Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Bill, 2004 and the National Commission for Minorities (Repeal) Bill, 2004 in order to confer the constitutional status on the National Commission for Minorities. Notices were sent to Lok Sabha Secretariat for introduction of official amendments to these Bills in February, 2009. Since the House adjourned on 26.02.2009, the official amendments could not be introduced. The Bills have lapsed with the end of term of the 14th Lok Sabha.

Grants by Maulana Azad Foundation to NGOs

3264. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:
SHRI SABIR ALI:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of grants sanctioned by Maulana Azad Education Foundation to NGOs, which are not muslim minority institutions/organisations, during the last four years and this year, so far;